

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM

RELEASE AS SANITIZED

AIR

2003

HGG-A-942

RYBAT/PBSUCCESS/SECRET

Chief, Lincoln

Chief of Station, Guatemala

Info: Washington

Empresa Electrica de Guatemala  
Transmittal of Detailed Map

Reference - HGG-A-874, 6 April 1954

1. Attached herewith is a detailed schematic map of the plants, lines and system of the Empresa Electrica de Guatemala which was prepared by the subject of GUAT 392, a personal friend of Identity 1 of GUAT 281.
2. I wish to point out that the subject of GUAT 392 is identical with the individual mentioned in para. 4 of HGG-A-874, and I have requested a check on him in view of his spirit of collaboration and bearing in mind the statements made by him and reported in HGG-A-874.
3. It has since been ascertained that he has stated the following:
  - a. That because of an attempt made some time back, in which some unidentified person threw a faulty grenade at one of the main transformers, two policemen are always stationed at the Guarda and other main sub-stations;
  - b. That the equipment of the Empresa Electrica de Guatemala is a bastard mixture of Dutch, German, American and British manufacture and much of it should have been junked years ago;
  - c. That the company, because of the uncertain financial future of its investments in this country, has hesitated to purchase new equipment;
  - d. That he and other company technicians are very fearful that an attempt may be made against the installations in case of a revolution not because they favor the present government, which he definitely does not, but because the electrical system is in such delicate balance that sabotage might easily do such damage that six months might be required to effect repairs.

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4. In view of the latter statement, I believe that serious consideration should be given to his boast as reported in para. 4 of HGG-A-874. However, it is to be understood that he is unaware of many circumstances which might sensibly effect his time calculation with respect to repair of sabotage damage.
5. At this point I wish to stress that Identity 1 of GUAT 281 has not been briefed and, to the contrary, has specifically stated that he is never interested in knowing the reason why this station may sometimes desire information. However, he has always been most anxious to be of any service which he can perform without embarrassment to ODUNIT to whom he obviously has a tremendous loyalty. He has the local reputation and gives the impression of being not only an excellent ODUNIT officer but an outstandingly unselfish, unpretentious and devotedly loyal citizen. I would strongly recommend that, if possible, such an unusual and outstanding spirit of cooperation be made a matter of official notice.
6. I questioned him concerning the possibility that the subject of GUAT 392 might have become suspicious of the interest displayed in the electric company. I have been assured that such is NOT the case and that, to the contrary, the subject of GUAT 392, being a former ODIBEX officer, completely accepts the story given him to the effect that compilation of such data is a constant world-wide activity of ODEARL and, naturally, is of particular importance in these trying times when we are engaged in repelling the deadly threat of world-wide Soviet aggression.

[ ]  
Earle N. Bannister

Encl: as noted

22April 1954

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